



January 2022

- IMPORTANT DATES:**
- **Mon Jan 3 - Back to School**
 - Fri Jan 14 - Half Day
 - Wed Jan 26 @ 7pm - Public Board Meeting (*join online*)
 - Fri Jan 28 - Report Cards

Happy New Year and Welcome Back! We hope you had a fantastic holiday season filled with rejuvenation, joy, peace and surrounded by those that you love. We are so happy at Exshaw School to have the gift of two new beginnings! The start of a new year brings us the opportunity to begin fresh with renewed energy to do great things. We know that with a great connection between home and school, students are able to do their very best. Thank you so much for working as part of the time to help our students achieve their highest potential! Isn't it hard to believe that the school year is approaching almost the halfway point? We have noticed that with consistent attendance, at least over 85%, students are making wonderful progress! Thanks for sending your child(ren) to school each day, provided they are healthy! We miss them incredibly when they are not here!

Christmas Concert

I also want to celebrate the wonderful performance of the students at our virtual Christmas concert in December! They worked extremely hard to do their best and perform to show their many talents! Thank you to Mr. Sand for orchestrating a wonderful celebration of talent!



Buses

Did you know that even when buses do not run the school is still open for learning for all students? It is and all staff is at the school ready to teach each student that arrives! We had a fantastic learning day at the beginning of December with the 26 students that were driven in and picked up or those that walked over!

Warm Clothing

Brrrr....the weather is very cold! Please make sure that students are prepared for the cold weather with a nice warm jacket, boots, mittens/gloves and a winter hat. We do want our students to enjoy the winter weather when we can!



Reading Skills

To improve reading skills, it takes practice. Thanks for being a partner in your child(ren)'s reading as they are bringing books back and forth from school to home to read. Did you know that we give out Exshaw School shirts each time a student hits a milestone in reading? Emily Ear read a 100 books in December! Way to go Emily!



Attendance

Exshaw School was so lucky to have our first in person Elders Attendance Meeting in December. It was wonderful to welcome Phillomene and Tracey Stevens back to support our students, families and school to help grow stronger attendance! We are aiming for 90% or greater attendance for each student at Exshaw School!



Whole Child Education

At Exshaw School, we focus on Whole Child Education. This means that we focus on nurturing development in the areas of physical, cognitive, emotional, social and spiritual well being. By doing this it supports the development of a child who is:

- Intellectually active
- Physically, verbally, socially and academically competent
- Empathetic, kind, caring and fair
- Creative and curious
- Disciplined, self-directed and goal oriented
- A critical thinker
- Confident
- Cared for and valued



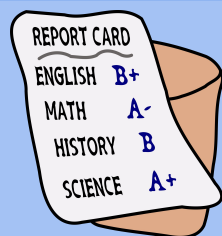
This is why we focus on a strong literacy and numeracy program with interventions to ensure we are meeting each student where they are at and programming to help them improve. We provide universal programming by our counselor in collaboration with classroom teachers to address emotional well being. We have knowledge keepers to support the wonderful traditional learning to develop belonging, empathy, kindness, in collaboration with staff teachings. We provide land based learning opportunities and learning within the school that prompts students to be curious, critical thinkers and intellectually active while developing their academic competence. Students see themselves as successful in the learning that they are able to do on a daily basis!

Field Trips

Just a reminder, we require signed consent for field trips. Unfortunately, we cannot accept verbal consent. Thanks for signing consent forms as soon as possible so that your child(ren) can participate in wonderful learning opportunities!

Report Cards

Report Cards will be located through parent portal. You can access them on Friday January 28 at 3pm by logging into www.powerschool.crps.ca. Instructions for how to access the report cards will be posted on the school website.



Family Literacy Day

Did you know that Family Literacy Day is on January 27th? Here are some fun activities as a family to do!

1. Outdoor scavenger hunt. Make a list of commonly found outdoor items, then go on a walk together with your list and see if you can find all the items.
2. Create a nature journal. Using a notebook, draw pictures and write stories about the different outdoor areas you've explored and the trees or animals you've come across.
3. Learn about winter species. Research online or at the library about winter birds and other animals in your region. Then, next time you're outside, see if you can find any of the species you've learned about.
4. Nature hike. Get some fresh air and exercise while practicing your math. Time your hike, work out the distance, and calculate your average speed on your hike.
5. Make story stones. Find rocks outside and draw a different nature-themed picture on each. Then take turns telling stories using the stones.
6. Head in the clouds. Look at the different clouds in the sky and see if the shapes of the clouds look like familiar objects, such as animals or people.
7. Number walk. As you put on your shoes, choose something you want to count during your walk. It could be dogs, trees, stop signs, cars—anything you want! On your walk, count how many you can find.
8. Snow art. Use emptied dish soap bottles filled with water and food colouring to write messages and draw in the snow.
9. A course of course. Build an obstacle course in your backyard or at a park and draw a map of how to go through it from beginning to end.
10. Adopt a tree. Pick a nearby tree that is special to you and spend time observing and learning about the tree.

Thank You

We are very grateful to work as part of such a wonderful team of students, parents, Elders, knowledge keepers, outside agencies and staff. It is a fantastic environment to grow in and we are thankful for each and every one.

Yours in education,
Nadine Dack-Doi (principal)

Please follow our Exshaw School Facebook page, Twitter feed and website for updates:

